

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview of September 15, 2006 to discuss the pending claims.

Claims 1, 35, 36, and 37 are currently pending. Claim 1 has been amended to add clarity to the claim. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon, (U.S. Pat # 6,510,554), in view of Katsuyama, (U.S. Pat # 5,701,385).

As amended, claim 1 is not rendered obvious by Gordon in view of Katsuyama. Specifically, Katsuyama discusses a disk player that is configured to play one or more DVDs. The Katsuyama disk player is configured to control a television or the like to display an "all disk digest" that includes information for each disk's contents. See Katsuyama at col. 22, lines 53-63. The information for a disk's contents might be a menu from the disk if the disk includes playback control, or may include an i-picture from a track on a disk if the disk does not include playback control. See Katsuyama at col. 24, lines 33-52, and in FIGs. 24 and 25. Each disk may be played in a fast forward mode in a small frame as shown in FIG. 31A to 31H. Each disk is played in fast forward mode before another disk is played in fast forward mode. See for example the transition from FIG. 31D to FIG. 31E for disks 1 and 2. Before fast forward mode proceeds for disk 2, the fast forward mode for disk 1 has ended. See also FIG. 30 of Katsuyama in which "x" represents a disk number and the loop (e.g., loop of $x = 1$ to $x = x + 1$) of FIG. 30 represents the stepping through of each disk one by one in the fast forward mode. As the fast forward mode a Katsuyama is carried out one disk at a time, Katsuyama does not show or suggest a display from which "titles" on a given disk can be selected by via a user selection to display a small frame for a given track as required by claim 1. Stated alternatively, Katsuyama does not provide any control technique that permits a user to select a track from a given disk for play in a small screen. To reiterate, each disk, one by one, in the Katsuyama system is played in fast forward mode before any other disk is played in the fast forward mode. Therefore, no track

selection option for a given disk is provided wherein a track selected by a user is played in a small frame.

While Katsuyama does discuss that “as shown in FIG. 26A, the head i-picture of each track of a single disc is read out so that the disc digest screen is displayed, or as shown in FIG. 26B, some i-pictures may be read out from a certain track to conduct the digest display so that the contents of tracks can roughly be known,” (see Katsuyama at col. 28, lines 14-20) Katsuyama fails to show or suggest that a selection can be made by the user of a given i-picture for a selected track for display of a track in a small frame. Therefore, Katsuyama fails to show or suggest “wherein the system control module, in response to receiving a user-specified title selection from the cursor button, is configured to control the decoder module to play back automatically the user-specified title as a small frame if there is no button input for a select period of time,” as required by claim 1 (emphasis added). Therefore, Katsuyama fails to show or suggest every limitation of amended claim 1. Therefore, Katsuyama fails to render amended claim 1 obvious.

Gordon fails to make up for the deficiencies of Katsuyama. Gordon, as understood, discuss an apparatus for displaying a single frame for plurality of programs and for a plurality of scenes for a select program. Nowhere does Gordon even mention displaying a select program in a small frame. In contrast, Gordon, as understood, describes a picture processor module configured to decode a main video stream that includes a plurality of sub-streams. The video processor module is configured to process a single sub-stream to generate i) a decoded stream for standard video playback, ii) a decoded stream for fast forward playback, and iii) a decoded stream for reverse playback. See FIG. 2 of Gordon and the description thereof at Col. 5, line 63 to Col. 6, line 53. The video processor module is configured to skip select frames, such as B-frames, and decode other frames such as I-frames and P-frames to generate the fast forward stream and the reverse stream. Frames are skipped and decoded based on a predictive frame counting method. See FIG. 3 of Gordon and the description thereof at Col. 6, line 54 to Col. 7, line 34. These various decoded streams are then stored in a mass storage unit for fast retrieval for transmission to a user. See Gordon at Col. 6, lines 38-53. The fast forward and reverse

program decoding system of Gordon is in no way related to the single frame display and selection apparatus of amended claim 1. Therefore, Gordon fails entirely to make up for the deficiencies of Katsuyama. Therefore, Gordon in view of Katsuyama fails to render amended claim 1 obvious.

Independent claim 36 recites limitations similar to those limitations of amended claim 1 distinguished from Gordon and Katsuyama above. Therefore, for at least the same reasons that Gordon and Katsuyama fails to render amended claim 1 obvious, Gordon and Katsuyama similarly fail to render claim 36 obvious.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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